

ODP-0-007

8 JAN 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, DDA Management Staff

FROM: Bruce T. Johnson  
Director, Office of Data Processing

SUBJECT: Impact of FY 1980 Travel and Transportation  
Reduction

REFERENCE: Comptroller's memorandum, dated 19 December 1979,  
Same Subject (COMP 79-1632)

1. The "eight percent" reduction in travel from the 1980 Congressional Budget is actually a 16% reduction from our actual 1979 travel expenditures. Further, the operational impact is magnified by the fact that approximately twenty percent of our 1979 travel expenses were non-discretionary and that dollar amount will not change substantially in FY 1980. Thus, the reduction in ODP discretionary operational travel is approximately 20%, a reduction which we do not believe is tolerable.

2. The discretionary travel is almost exclusively to conferences and meetings conducted by private businesses and the government, all designed to update and maintain the proficiency of participants and to keep them current on new developments in the computer field. Without regular and continuing attendance by ODP personnel in such gatherings, our standards of expertise will soon fall below that level of knowledge needed to maintain CIA's central computer system in the forefront of one of the most dynamic and rapidly changing technological applications in our society.

3. There has been another development since the preparation of the 1980 Congressional Budget which may well have a heavy impact on our 1980 travel expenses. This is the stepped up efforts to install computer equipment in selected overseas stations to facilitate data exchange with Headquarters.

While we cannot predict the number of trips that ODP personnel will have to make in support of the program we are reasonably certain that this type of overseas travel will begin in 1980. It is possible of course that some or even all of the overseas travel by ODP personnel will be paid for by the DD/O component concerned. However, we feel it prudent to identify funds in our budget so that we can be assured that we can be fully responsive to our role in this new development. To the extent that this proves to be the case, our conference and consultation funds will be further reduced.

4. It is requested that you make every effort to restore the ODP travel funds to at least the level of 1979 actual expenses, or make whatever budgetary arrangements you consider appropriate so that we may continue at least at last year's level of attendance at computer conferences.

/s/ Bruce T. Johnson

Bruce T. Johnson

Att: 1980 Travel Plan

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